

4J BUILDING DEBACLE PAGE 4 | EUGENE GETTING AN ER AGAIN? PAGE 6 | BRAVA ARTS AND BUSINESS AWARDS PAGE 7

EUGENE WEEKLY

MAY 15, 2025 • VOL. 44 • NO. 20 | FOSSIL FREE EVERY THURSDAY!

A PELICAN PARK
SPEEDWAY RACER
PLACES A SLOT CAR ON
THE TRACK.

Photo by Mason Falor

SLOT CAR RACING ON
A LITTLE SPEEDWAY
IN SPRINGFIELD

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Upcoming City of Eugene Budget Committee Meetings

All meetings are scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m.
For more information about upcoming meetings, go to the City of Eugene website: www.eugene-or.gov/BudgetCommittee

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

Budget Committee deliberation and public comment on the 2025-2027 Proposed Budget

Wednesday, May 28, 2025

Budget Committee deliberation and public hearing on the 2025-2027 Proposed Budget



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editorial

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letters

Thriftin Internationally

When I traveled to Ireland last year, I investigated thrift stores near my hotels.

Got a T-shirt with Key West homes on it and a dragonfly one, too. A scarf, sunglasses. All utilitarian and memorable about the country.

I'm an old broad who thrifths abroad.

Kim Kelly
Eugene

Not Enough in Thrifting

I was disappointed by a missed opportunity in last week's "Thriftin" issue. While I appreciated the brief article on finding secondhand clothing, the accompanying photo — featuring clothing at an overstock discount store — sent a confusing message. Buying surplus fast fashion is not thrifting. It's a far cry from the values of reuse, sustainability, and community that real thrift culture represents.

Even more frustrating was the lack of mention of our town's vibrant secondhand and vintage clothing scene. We have a pleth-

ora of locally owned shops and creative entrepreneurs who've built a thriving ecosystem around reuse and sustainable fashion. To overlook them in a thrifting-themed issue felt like a disservice to readers and to the businesses keeping these values alive.

I hope future coverage will give our local secondhand fashion community the spotlight it deserves.

Kaya Berry
Eugene

Editor's note: We agree — it would be great to have more local businesses in the spotlight! We tried to address the plethora of vintage clothing shops with roundup stories while also balancing including furniture, figurines, vinyl and the full secondhand scene in Lane County.

With Benevolence Like This...

We are fortunate to have such a benevolent corporation as Union Pacific around to "help" our community "grow." Recently, the company "partnered" with a short-line rail company (not based in Eugene, either) to take over its train yard.

This "opportunity for growth" will on the surface "better serve customers in the Willamette Valley." What's really happening — has happened — is that Union Pacific contracted out its yard operations to a non-union-

ized third-class railroad, forsaking dozens of employees in the yard who have given 10 and 20-plus years of service to the company.

Those employees can now sign with the short-line to do their same job for much less money while lacking union support. Otherwise, workers are being forced to commute to Portland if they want to keep their job. This should serve to remind us all that we're responsible to corporate shareholders above all, even our own community! Thanks, UP, for "helping" Eugene continue to grow!

Aaron Dactyl
Eugene

encouraged in my doddering dotage by the substantial resistance being raised here locally against Trump and his MAGA wannabees. Last weekend over 30 wonderful volunteers showed up in Cottage Grove to walk door-to-door on behalf of the rational candidates in these races. Thank you. And thank you, Blackberry Pie Society volunteers, for your continued good work.

A shoutout also to my friends, Gail and Birdie Hoelzle and The Bookmine Bookstore for their 50th anniversary. And to Camilla Mortensen and Jody Rolnick and the Eugene Weekly folks for their

perseverance and survival! So cool to see the Activist Alert notices again. The Weekly is a critically important venue and service to the local progressive community. Despite occasionally expelling excessive hot air in our midst.

So please help out on these campaigns. Vote, dammit. Like The Who once sang: "We won't get fooled again!..."

Tony Corcoran
Cottage Grove

More election letters online at EugeneWeekly.com.

THIS MODERN WORLD



Local & Vocal

Viewpoint by Lorraine Berry

The Inevitable Press Release

An accident waiting to happen on 33rd Avenue in Eugene

I am a writer and occasional journalist, and so as a service, I've prepared a press release for an event that is inevitable here in Eugene:

Eugene police reported today that _____, a ____-year old pedestrian, was struck and killed on East 33rd Avenue between the cross-streets of Donald and Hilyard.

The driver, ____-year-old _____, was reported by witnesses to have been speeding and distracted before hitting _____, who resided at ____ East 33rd Avenue.

In recent years, a steady stream of speeding motorists use the narrow street daily to save time by not driving the additional three blocks to access Amazon Parkway. Despite cutouts and signs indicating the tiny street is a bike lane, residents report constant traffic doing 10 to 15 miles over the speed limit that have made crossing the street to talk to their neighbors risky.

Neighbors note that it's now common

for traffic attempting to turn left at Hilyard to have created gridlock with long lines of cars backed up and blocking Ferry Street. Neighbors also report that while traffic has heavier periods during the morning commute, it especially swells when parents are dropping and picking up their children at a local school. Despite the presence of small children, those with disabilities and senior citizens, the commute is especially dangerous at school pick-up time.

Parents hurrying to pick their own children up have been seen to narrowly avoid hitting children walking back to their neighborhood homes. Several neighbors reported incidents in which bicyclists using the bike lane have been forced off the road by drivers seeking to pass them.

Several parked cars have been totaled since 2021 after being smashed by errant drivers. Neighbors also report that, despite posted speeds of 25 mph, cars are routinely observed to be driving in excess of 40 mph.

Lorraine Berry, a resident, reported her own multiple calls to the city's traffic divi-

sion and department of public works, in addition to speaking with City Councilor Matt Keating. She was assured that the city was aware of the problem, although no plan to ameliorate the danger has been proposed. Multiple neighbors also reported their own contacts with the city and note that there's been no follow-up.

Unable to spur action from the city, neighbors have posted signs requesting that drivers stop speeding. During warm days, neighbors often shout at passing motorists to slow down and have attempted to get drivers' attention by blasting speeding cars with garden hoses. Many expressed anger and grief about today's fatality, noting that they had warned various officials that such an accident had become inevitable, and mourning the victim, who had many friends.

One day, after witnessing the local mail carrier nearly get struck while she was crossing the road, Berry reported that she staged a road sit-in, one in which she wore a hi-visibility vest and sat in the middle of

the road, forcing cars to slow down and stay in their lanes. During the incident, neighbors gathered to support her, and were witnesses when a frustrated driver drove into oncoming traffic to pass those who had slowed down.

"Clearly, these drivers' lives are much more important than those of us who live here," Berry said. "They're in obvious rushes and can't be expected to obey local laws that stipulate yielding to pedestrians or not blocking local intersections. For a city that considers itself progressive, city residents' lack of empathy and awareness of others in this neighborhood is clear evidence that progressive values only apply when it doesn't cause inconvenience."

Several city officials contacted about the tragedy offered condolences to the family of the victim, and said that the driver involved would be prosecuted. They offered no comment when asked if changes would be made to the traffic conditions that have been reported on 33rd Avenue since before 2021.

Lorraine Berry lives in Eugene and is a book critic for the Los Angeles Times.

Bricks \$ Mortar BY CHRISTIAN WIHTOL

A QUICK PROFIT ON WELLS FARGO FLIP

Eugene School District 4J's purchase of downtown building in 2024 gave windfall to savvy Portland investors

Late in the evening of Feb. 7, 2024, Andy Dey, at that time superintendent of the Eugene school district, was jubilant. The school board had just approved his plan to buy the empty former Wells Fargo building in downtown Eugene and remodel it into the district's administrative offices.

At Dey's direction, the district the next day sent buoyant announcements to media, staff and parents. Dey gave upbeat interviews.

But the purchase involved a secret that the district has never disclosed to the public and of which school board members appear to have been unaware: To buy the building, the district had to hand a quick profit that may have approached \$600,000 to four Portland commercial real estate brokers who the previous year had obtained control over, but not ownership of, the building.

The deal worked like this, records and interviews show: The Portland executives in early 2023 secured from the vacant building's owner, banking giant Wells Fargo, an option to buy the property. That was just before Dey began zeroing in on it for district administrative space. Once the school board finally voted on Feb. 7, 2024, to buy it, the Portland executives' company, NMDM LLC, quickly exercised its option and bought the building from Wells

Fargo for \$2,225,000 and "other good and valuable consideration," according to the deed. The nature of that extra "consideration" is unclear.

Then, seven days later, NMDM flipped the building to the district for \$2,894,000, according to the deed. The deal gave NMDM a potential markup of up to \$669,000, or 30 percent — although NMDM likely incurred significant costs in the deal, such as paying Wells Fargo for the option. How much profit the group made is not publicly known.

BOARD REVERSAL

Did the district get a good deal anyway? No one can be sure.

But the district has been trying to sell the place for nearly a year, with no luck. Just four months after buying it, the board soured on the idea of spending \$10 million-plus for the remodel. So, it put the building up for sale, asking \$3.2 million.

"I'm hoping that we can sell it, and ideally we can sell it for at least what we purchased it for," says Jenny Jonak, current chairperson of the Eugene school board. Jonak had opposed the purchase. But at the February 2024 board meeting she was outvoted 5-2. Jonak says she didn't know the purchase entailed an option and a flip until *Eugene Weekly* recently explained it to her. "Had I been aware of it [at the Feb. 7 meeting], I would have asked a lot of questions about it," she tells the *Weekly*. "I would have wanted to know if we could get a better price."

Just three months after the February 2024 vote, the board didn't renew Dey's employment contract, for reasons unrelated to the Wells Fargo building. Then, the board unanimously voted to list the building for sale.

The property is a clunky 60-year-old downtown landmark, 50,000 square feet

of office space on four stories, featuring a large, non-functioning escalator.

FEW REPLIES

The Wells Fargo flip saga appears to be a case of sharp-witted Portland real estate executives beating school district leaders to the punch by getting the purchase option even as the district was engaged in a very public scramble to find sizable office space in Eugene. And, crucially, the executives lucked out as the district became fixated on buying the Wells Fargo building.

The option and flip sequence is also a saga that school district leaders — other than Jonak — won't talk about, and have never explained to the public. Dey appears to have kept the details hidden from a KLCC reporter.

Of the seven school board members who voted on the purchase — all are still in office — only Jonak would speak with *Eugene Weekly*. Five other board members, who all voted for the purchase, did not reply to repeated emails asking about the flip. One other board member, Rick Hamilton, who voted against the purchase, declined to comment.

Dey declined to be interviewed about it. Three of the four members of NMDM did not reply to emails and phone messages. The fourth member denied being involved in the transaction. Wells Fargo declined comment.

Options aren't uncommon in real estate. They typically give a party the right to buy a property at a set price for a fixed period while they mull a purchase. Terms of NMDM's option are unknown.

Longtime Eugene commercial real estate broker John Brown says that in March or April 2023, Dey asked him to help find office space for the district. Brown says when he looked into the Wells Fargo building, Portland real estate broker Nathan Sasaki — a member of

NMDM — had already locked it up with the option. The district's only avenue was to negotiate with NMDM, Brown says. That dragged on about 10 months as the district calculated remodeling costs. The district "did all their due diligence," he says.

FEW RECORDS AVAILABLE

During 2023, Dey met with the school board at least twice in closed executive sessions to discuss the planned purchase. It's unclear what he told the board. In response to *Eugene Weekly*'s public records requests, the district has produced few relevant records; the district refuses to disclose some documents on the deal that it considers confidential and that it gave to board members.

In October 2023, the district signed an agreement to buy the building from NMDM for \$2,894,000, subject to board approval.

At the Feb. 7, 2024, open-to-the-public board meeting to approve the purchase, nobody mentioned the building price, the option, who owned the building or who the district would buy it from.

Jonak, who had joined the board in July 2023, says the board was focused on the overall cost of buying and remodeling. The board never voted on a specific purchase price, she says.

At the February 2024 meeting, "what was before us was to approve an all-in amount, basically an up-to level, that the district could spend, and ... that was supposed to include the purchase price and the amount of contemplated remodeling," Jonak says. The total was about \$13.5 million.

"It never occurred to me that there was some sort of flip happening," Jonak says, adding she would be "surprised" if any other board members had known about the flip.

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Endorsements! At a Glance

BY EW EDITORIAL BOARD



AUSTIN FÖLNAGY, DEVON LAWSON AND JERRY RUST ARE RUNNING FOR THE LCC BOARD. Photos by Eve Weston

Lane Community College

Director Zone 4, 4-Year Term

Austin Fölnagy (incumbent) v. Richard Andrew Vasquez

Director Zone 1, 4-Year Term

Jerry Rust v. Jeffrey Cooper

Director Zone 3, 4-Year Term

Devon Lawson v. Julie Weismann (incumbent)

Director Position 7, 2-Year Unexpired Term

Jesse Alejandro Maldonado (unopposed)

Eugene School District #4J

Director Position 2, 4-Year Term

Ericka Thessen (incumbent) v. Danny McDiarmid, Alan Madden

Director Position 3, 4-Year Term

Judy Newman (incumbent) v. Donald Easton

Director Position 6, 4-Year Term

Maya Rabasa (incumbent)

OTHER RACES

Lane Education Service District

Director Zone 1, 4-Year Term

Thomas Hiura v. Rich Cunningham

The election is May 20. Check your ballot status at SOS.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/myvote.aspx. For more endorsement information check out Blackberry Pie Society at Sites.google.com/view/blackberry-pie-society/home.



OLD WELLS FARGO BUILDING
ON 99 EAST BROADWAY.
Photo by Eve Weston

The four formally registered NMDM LLC in June 2023 with the Oregon Secretary of State's Office.

Johnson says, "I was not involved in that [Wells Fargo] project. I would help you if I could."

Dey sought to keep NMDM's role in the deal hidden from the public. The day after the Feb. 7, 2024, vote, a reporter from the KLCC radio station asked Dey who the district was buying the building from. At that time, the

building was still owned by Wells Fargo, which would, within a week, sell it to NMDM LLC, which would then flip it to the district. Dey "declined to name the current owner of the building," KLCC reported.

Bricks \$ Mortar is a column anchored by Christian Wihtol, who worked as an editor and writer at The Register-Guard in Eugene 1990-2018, much of the time focused on real estate, economic development and business. Reach him at Christian@EugeneWeekly.com.

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ACTIVIST ALERT

Protests, activism and more around Lane County

BY CAMILLA MORTENSEN

Upcoming Rallies, Marches, Trainings and Protests

» **BHRN Bash**, a free community resource fair highlighting vital addiction and recovery services in Lane County, 11 am to 3 pm, Friday, May 16, Emerald Valley Resource Network, Farmers Market Pavilion, 8th Avenue and Oak Street.

» **Free Legal Clinic: Topic #1 Immigration — Know Your Rights**, 1 pm to 4 pm, Sunday, May 18, 1695 Jefferson Street, Black Cultural Initiative.

» **Speak Out on Eugene Proposed Budget Cuts to Animal Services**, 5:30 pm, Wednesday, May 21, give public input at city of Eugene Budget Committee Meeting, to comment go to Eugene-or.gov/1154/Budget-Committee, to learn more go to Green-hill.org/recent-posts.

» **Avelo Airlines boycott/protest**, Saturday, May 31, time and place TBD, Avelo, which flies out of Eugene Airport, has contracted with ICE to facilitate deportation flights out of other airports.

» **Unite for Veterans, Unite for America Rally**, 2 pm Eastern, Friday, June 6, National Mall in Washington, D.C., 50501 Veterans. Unite4Veterans.org.

» **No Kings**, noon to 3 pm Saturday, June 14, Veneta, 126 and Territorial Hwy, other locations time and place TBA, 50501, protest Trump's tax-funded Flag Day parade, NoKings.org.

Weekly/Ongoing

» **Resist! Persist! Repeat! Weekly Protest**, 11 am to noon, Mondays, corner of 29th and Willamette Street.

» **Weekly vigils calling for an immediate ceasefire in Palestine and Israel**, 5 pm Wednesdays, Planet Versus Pentagon, Old Federal Building, corner of 7th & Pearl.

» **Signmaking at MECCA**, 11 am to 6 pm Tuesday through Saturday, help with signmaking 11 am to 1pm Wednesdays. Paint up to four signs for a donation of \$5 to \$10. MECCA, 555 High Street.

» **Stop the Cuts/Fire Trump and Musk**, noon Fridays, Eugene Veterans Clinic, 3355 Chad Drive.

» **Stand in solidarity with Food Not Bombs feeding the community**, 3:30 pm Fridays, Food Not Bombs, Downtown Park Blocks, 8th and Oak, Instagram.com/foodnotbombs_eugene.

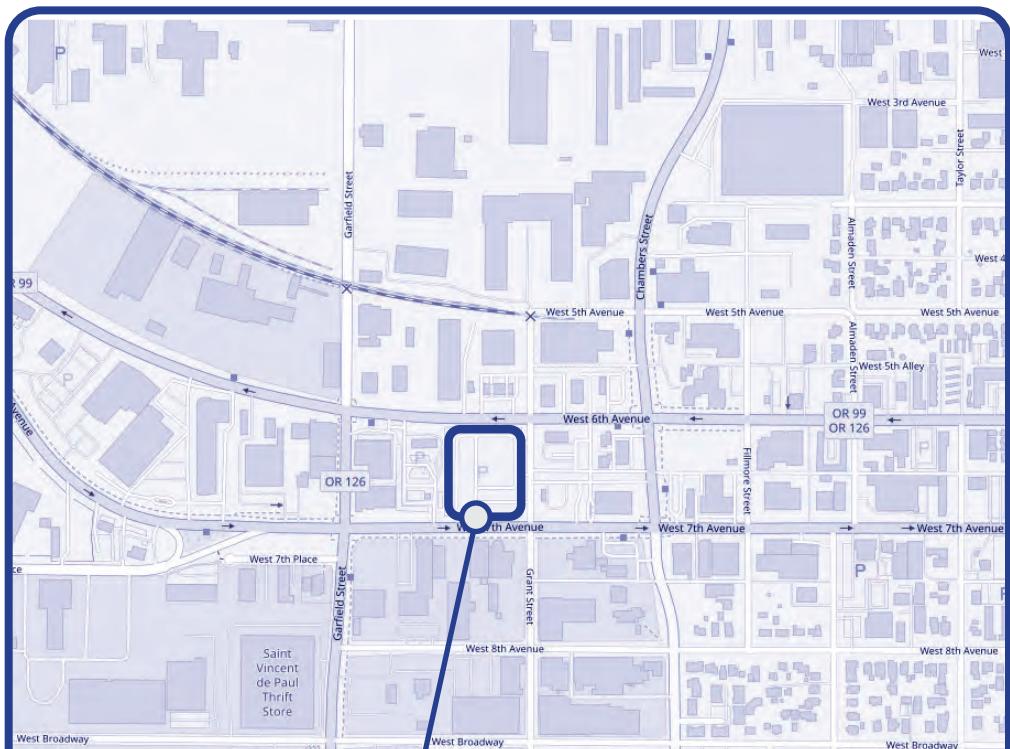
» **Nonviolent Assembly Protesting Dissolution of Our Constitutional Rights**, 10 am to 2 pm, Saturdays, 211 East 7th Avenue.

» **Protest Trump's attacks on immigrants**, noon to 5 pm Saturdays, in front of the Creswell AM/PM on Oregon Avenue, resources available to teach people how to disrupt ICE raids in their area.

Email Editor@EugeneWeekly.com with "Activist Alert" in the subject line to add protests to this listing, and go to EugeneWeekly.com to add them to the Weekly's What's Happening Calendar.

NEWS

Map © OpenStreetMap contributors, OpenStreetMaps.org



ER IN EUGENE AGAIN

McKenzie-Willamette picks west Eugene site for emergency department

BY CHRISTIAN WIHTOL

McKenzie-Willamette Medical Center's much-anticipated free-standing emergency department in Eugene will go on a vacant parcel just west of Chambers Street, plans filed with the city show.

Many Eugene residents have been awaiting news after the Springfield hospital's CEO declared eight months ago that McKenzie-Willamette would open an emergency department somewhere in Eugene, without providing specifics. The lack of updates since then led some Eugene residents to fear the project stalled.

But it is very much alive.

The single-story 19,000-square-foot building would go on a large parking lot between West 6th and West 7th avenues, the preliminary plans show.

The hospital's spokesperson did not respond this week to *Eugene Weekly*. The draft plans and questions recently submitted by McKenzie-Willamette's architect to the city did not include a construction timeline.

McKenzie-Willamette's September announcement followed PeaceHealth's bitterly criticized decision to close the PeaceHealth Sacred Heart University District hospital near the University of Oregon, including the emergency department, and consolidate emergency operations at PeaceHealth's RiverBend hospital in Springfield. The move left Springfield (population 62,000) with two emergency departments and Eugene (population 178,000) with none.

Nonprofit PeaceHealth cited persistent financial losses at the University District complex. But for-profit McKenzie-Willamette saw the closure left an emergency services void in Eugene, especially in the city's fast-growing west and northwest neighborhoods.

McKenzie-Willamette still faces hurdles. It needs city planning approval. The targeted parcel is zoned community commercial, and McKenzie-Willamette is seeking confirmation its medical building is allowed there. The hospital is also consulting with city staff over parking, traffic issues, landscaping and more. Plus, McKenzie-Willamette needs approval from the Oregon Health Authority, which reviews new medical capital construction projects.

The west Eugene site is owned by John and Corinne Kiefer of Reno, Nevada, owners of the Mazda and Kia car dealerships in Eugene, property records show. The lot is across West 7th Avenue from the Kia dealership.

Freestanding emergency departments — EDs that are not within a hospital complex — are uncommon. It's unclear whether there are any in Oregon. Nationwide, there are about 700, out of a total of roughly 5,000 emergency departments, research reports show. About half the freestanding ones are in Texas.

Last September, McKenzie-Willamette CEO David Butler announced his hospital had an investor, a developer and a site for a 12-bed Eugene emergency department. He provided no location specifics.

Many hospitals in Oregon complain they are losing money. But McKenzie-Willamette reaped spectacular profits pre-pandemic, and has eked out slender profits the last few years.

Historically, McKenzie-Willamette had one of the highest profit rates among Oregon's 60 acute-care inpatient hospitals. During the pandemic, it incurred an operating loss in only a single year, 2020. Last year, it had a profit of \$5.4 million on revenues of \$274 million. Pre-pandemic, the hospital had eye-popping profits — for example, \$32 million in 2019 and \$50 million in 2015, according to its filings with the OHA.

The hospital is owned by privately held for-profit Tennessee-based Quorum Health Corp., which owns 12 hospitals in nine states. Quorum doesn't disclose financials for the group as a whole. Available data indicate McKenzie-Willamette is one of its most profitable facilities.

FINALLY RECOGNIZED

The founder of Xcape Dance Academy is named the 2025 Eugene Arts and Letters Award recipient for her decades of community impact and artistic leadership

BY KAT TABOR



VANESSA FULLER AT XCAPE DANCE STUDIO
Photo by Kat Tabor

Vanessa Fuller — dancer, choreographer and longtime advocate for community arts — has been selected as the 2025 recipient of the Eugene Arts and Letters Award, a distinguished honor that recognizes outstanding contributions to the city's cultural life.

Established in 1982 by Lee and Hester Bishop, the award is presented annually by the mayor of Eugene. Since 2010, it has been part of the BRAVA Awards, hosted by the Arts and Business Alliance of Eugene, and honors individuals who have significantly shaped Eugene's artistic community.

"I've never been honored by the city, ever, for anything," Fuller says.

Fuller is the founder and artistic director of Xcape Dance Company, a studio built on principles of equity and access. Xcape is known for offering scholarship-based dance education to participants of all ages — from toddlers to adult professionals. "The way we work, Xcape provides no barriers education to every single person who walks in the door," Fuller says. "I don't turn anybody away for not having funds to dance," she adds. "This means that we have a lot of students on scholarships and a lot of students in some of those marginalized populations that would never get the chance to take dance or be involved in a community like this otherwise."

As someone who was born and raised in Eugene, Fuller says she feels closely tied to the community and grateful for the opportunity to give back. "I'm born and raised here. I left for a while, and I came back, which gave me a lot of perspective," she says. "I would say my favorite part about creating here in Eugene is that I feel like I get to do what's needed for kids that look like me," she continues. "And so what keeps me motivated and excited about being here is the opportunity to do that. I feel like it's kind of my purpose, my karma, whatever you want to call it."

Fuller's work reaches far beyond Eugene. Her choreography has been featured on major stages, including Club Jeté in Los Angeles, and at arena concerts across the country alongside artists like E-40, Twista, The Game and Bone Thugs-n-Harmony. She also appeared in Season 1 of *Second Chance Stage* on HBO Max and Magnolia Network, and has collaborated with MTV, CBS and the University of Oregon.

Reflecting on her upbringing, Fuller says the lack of diverse representation in local dance shaped her vision. "I grew up here. At that time, there wasn't a lot of hip hop, a lot of jazz, a lot of African rooted styles. I did take tap growing up, but there wasn't a community of Black and brown leadership here. There just wasn't."

That lack of representation fueled her passion for teaching and ultimately led her to become the artistic director and studio owner of Xcape — a space designed not just as a dance studio, but as a launching pad for the next generation of artists. Xcape now includes a teacher assistant program, competitive youth teams and a professional dance company for adults. "This is the pipeline," Fuller says. "We're creating that connection from here to L.A. and New York."

She says receiving the BRAVA award is especially meaningful as arts organizations across the country are dealing with sharp cuts to funding.

"It feels great to be honored. I think it's a really good time because we all know of the grants and things that have been cut abruptly in the past couple weeks to art organizations, part of our organization is nonprofit. So we're going to feel the effects of that," Fuller says. "And so I feel like it's a really good time to have the opportunity to speak about that."

Many of the affected grants are tied to the National Endowment for the Arts, which helps fund local groups such as Lane Arts Council, Eugene Symphony and Oregon Bach Festival. These organizations often support programs that uplift marginalized and LGBTQ+ communities — a cornerstone of Xcape's mission. Fuller notes that many of those grants are being reduced due to decisions made by the current presidential administration.

At the heart of Xcape's purpose is creating a pathway for the next generation to believe in a future in the arts.

"There was nobody telling me I could make a career out of dance and art," Fuller says. "Now, kids in Eugene can see someone who looks like them doing just that."

"Dance to be free" is the guiding motto that Fuller and the Xcape Dance Company carry forward.

To learn more about Vanessa Fuller and Xcape Dance Academy, visit Xcapedance.my.canva.site/vanessafullerdance. Xcape Dance Academy is located at 1416 West 7th Avenue. For inquiries, call 541-337-3797 or email info@xcapedance.com.

slant Hey! Subscribe!

BY EW EDITORIAL STAFF

>> **Eugene Weekly announced in our last issue that Elisha Young, our former office manager, was indicted by a Lane County grand jury on five felony counts in our embezzlement case. One question we have gotten is why did it take so long?** First, we notified the Eugene police, then it was on us to arrange for the forensic accounting, and that accounting took a while. The expense of the accounting, plus fear of public embarrassment, is why many businesses do not pursue embezzlement cases despite how common they are. Then reams of documentation were handed over to EPD's financial crimes unit, which needed to go through the evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that she wasn't supposed to take the money. Next, a grand jury was convened and issued the indictment. After that, prosecutors and law enforcement arranged for extradition with Ohio, and then it took time for police to actually find her — which they did via a license plate scan — and arrest her there.

>> **Also in the Legislature are a couple bills that affect journalists and newspapers!** SB 686 would require large tech companies to compensate newsrooms for the local journalism on platforms like Google and Meta's Facebook. Possible downside? Meta cuts Oregon newspapers off from its platforms as it has done in Canada. Possible upsides? Money to staff newsrooms that actually produce the stories. We like that idea! A less likeable bill is HB 3564, introduced by freshman lawmaker Darin Harbick after his attorney issued a retraction demand to *Eugene Weekly* for our coverage of his son and legislative aid, Tyler Harbick, and the Jan. 6 uprising. *EW* covered the story twice — and requested comment — but the demand only came after a brief mention in a third story. The bill seeks to give people more time to get an attorney to come after news sources, something the Greater Oregon Society of Professional Journalists pointed out in a recent hearing could be chilling to small newsrooms.

>> **Sorry, Natural Grocers shoppers! You can no longer pick up your Eugene Weekly there.** The corporate office — not the local folks who work on Coburg Road — recently informed us of that. The local employees tried to keep us there but to no avail. Recently, an *EW* reader was told that we pulled the papers ourselves because Natural Grocers isn't local. Not true — we love having papers and red boxes in the spots where it works for you to pick them up! See a good location for a box or rack? Give us a call 541-484-0519 or email Circulation@EugeneWeekly.com. Want your *Weekly* in the mail? Go to Support.eugeneweekly.com and click *EW* subscriptions.

>> **First in June 2023 and again in January 2024, a jury ordered PacifiCorp to pay millions in damages after it found the utility company to have been reckless and negligent in the 2020 wildfires that destroyed homes and tore lives apart. Victims of the fires still have not seen the money that they need to make them whole again.** Forty-eight people signed up to give emotional testimony on Senate Bill 926 A on Monday, May 12, at a public hearing of the Oregon Legislature's House Judiciary Committee. Speakers — some choking back tears — talked about losing homes, animals and livelihoods. Among other things, SB 926 A prevents the utilities from distributing dividends and passing on costs and expenses to rebuild their equipment until victims are compensated — they don't get to go back to business as usual while the victims still struggle. The bill has already passed the Senate on a 22-6 highly bi-partisan vote and it is now in the House.

>> **Check out our pieces this week on winners of Eugene Arts and Business Alliance's BRAVA — Business Recognizing Arts Vision and Achievement — awards!** Humble brag, *EW* is the winner of the Dave Hauser Business of the Year! In addition to Vanessa Fuller of Xcape Dance Company (page 7) and Fermata Dance Collective (page 16), Dr. Don Dexter Gallery and The Shedd/QSL Print Communications are award winners. Come celebrate 5 pm May 20 at the Hult Center! And as long as we are on the topic of arts and culture, City Club of Eugene noon May 16 at the WOW Hall is all about the Oregon Country Fair.

DRIVING FOR DOUGHNUTS



SLOT CARS LINE UP AT THE STARTING LINE BEFORE THE OPENING QUALIFIER AT PELICAN PARK SPEEDWAY.

Photos by Mason Falor

A LONGSTANDING CLUB OF SLOT CAR AFICIONADOS MEETS WEEKLY FOR RACING AND DOUGHNUTS BY MASON FALOR

I was told to follow a club member from the Springfield Albertsons on Main Street to the secret hideout. When the club wouldn't give me the address, I thought my kidneys were going to be harvested. Instead, following Tom Snyder, 84, down a set of winding back roads, I felt this experience could go either way — organ harvesting or cool hidden clubhouse.

Unfortunately, the odds of either happening still seemed 50/50 when I pulled up to the Pelican Park Speedway, an externally rundown looking garage I was told used to be a small body shop, with a view of mountains and suburban sprawl.

Snyder exited his car, pulled out a cane and walked over and introduced himself. He then explained the history of Pelican Park, which was purchased back in 1996 by a few of the members — an era that predated Oregon's legalization of cannabis.

Initially, the group members, who are all in their 60s or older, met in secret as they also smoked weed at meetings and didn't want to get caught. They met to race slot cars — small model vehicles on specially designed tracks powered by electric motors. The name comes from the small slots or grooves on the track that a pin or blade from the car is inserted into to power it.

The members still meet to hang out, smoke, race and honor the memories of previous members of the Pelican Park club — who Snyder refers to as "10 or 12 retired gear-head men who gather weekly for fierce but happy competition."

In the clubhouse — where my initial impressions were blown out of the water and any fear of kidney robbery was dismissed — Snyder regaled me with tales of the beginnings of the club, which was founded by Doug Haynes, who died in 2009. Another notable deceased member, who died in 2019, was Todd Messinger. Messinger housed a massive collection of slot cars, and apparently built a new one every week. The final name mentioned for late racers was Dave Frazier, who passed away in 2022.

Slot cars began in the early 1900s with

the invention of the toy by Lionel Corporation. However, the little race cars as we see them today, powered by electric motors and current from the track, gained popularity in the 1960s, according to Italian artisan slot car maker, NSR. The Pel-

line the walls with photos of previous and current club members added among the photographic collages.

Diecast and model cars line large book shelves along the edges of Pelican Park. Racing hats and small trophies break up

The centerpiece of it all is the race track. Pelican Park's track is on the smaller side, according to Snyder, who explained that many of the tracks he grew up with were far larger. Multiple bends, a straightaway and an overpass comprise the majority of the track.

Slot cars are built on a variety of scales — 1/24 means that the small cars are 1/24th the size of a real race car. Snyder says Pelican Park races "1/24 and 1/25th scale 'hard body' slot cars where the bodies are converted from 1/24th and 1/25th scale plastic model car kits from the hobby shop or online."

Each corner of the track is populated by a diorama of figures and miniatures, sometimes performing unsavory, but funny, acts. The raceway has its own personality, one that amalgamates each members' personal taste. When it comes to the race itself, a better lap result — the difference between winning and losing — comes down to the weight of the car, understanding of the track, aerodynamics and simple skill.

The display of previous members' cars holds emotional significance to the surviving racers, says Paul Lanz, 70. "It's how we like to honor our former racers and friends."

Lanz inherited Messinger's previous collection and pared it down, keeping the best examples for display. "Todd had 250 cars. He gave me all of his unbuilt models. I sold off a lot of them though," Lanz says.

Two other members, who'd arrived earlier to help set up the track were Greg Pierson, 73, part of the original group in 1996, and Cully Bowman, 63, who joined in 1999. They were re-soldering electrical contact points along the track as well as wiping it down with copious amounts of lighter fluid to remove grease and spent silicone from the cars' tires.

Snyder explained the night's racing class. Out of 13 classes, the night's specialty was "modified dirt," which Snyder, with a drag on his Marlboro, described as "one of our fastest classes. It's a bit loose with the rules, which is to say other classes aren't."

Bowman chimed in saying each night is



A PREVIOUSLY RACED MODEL THAT HAS BEEN RELEGATED TO BEING A DISPLAY PIECE.



BACK ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT AT PELICAN PARK SPEEDWAY: CULLY BOWMAN, CHARLES 'CHARLIE' SNYDER, GARY TIPTON, GARY KLEIN, JAMES WENDEL, GREG PIERSON AND CHRIS SIMMONS. FRONT ROW: CHRIS 'BASIL' SNYDER, STEVE 'DEKE' COLEMAN, TOM SNYDER AND PAUL LANZ.

can Park club launched officially in 1989.

The Pelican Park clubhouse is a dream for all things automotive. Bits of art and photographs of famous racing drivers, such as Bruce McLaren and Enzo Ferrari,

the rows of model car after model car. A car aficionado myself, I have dreamed of a man cave this meticulous and overt at displaying all things with four wheels and a combustion engine.



"the systematic destruction of your works of art. And no crying!" Destruction of a slot car is usually due to running off the track or winding up in a collision. Notably, Snyder explained the slot cars they race can cost anywhere from \$5 to \$250, but they tend to limit the usage of their more expensive models.

A few more members entered the fray: Gary Klein, 74, who joined in 2016. Gary Tipton, also 74, joined in 2016 after racing in Albany from 2010 to 2015. Charlie Snyder, 81, Tom's brother, who's been racing since the

start and acts as the group's parts liaison. Chris "Basil" Snyder, 67, another Snyder brother. Deke Coleman, 68, who's been racing since he was 8, and finally James Wendel, 74, who joined up in around 2012.

With the racers all set, and their workshop kits assembled along the benches lining the walls, the qualifier races quickly set into motion.

Placement in the qualifiers is dictated by a random drawing of numbers, with two groups of four racing for placement in the eventual main event, although, there is a

loser's category lovingly referred to as the "consi" or consolation race. The bottom two racers from either qualifier populate the loser's bracket, and the top four racers populate the main event.

The prize? Doughnuts. White, powdered sugar doughnuts.

Each race begins by grabbing the attention of the racers with a recording of a goat scream — a quirk of Pelican Park. The scream is followed by a countdown, which is also visible on a small TV hung from a ceiling rafter. Snyder says, "The goats were

stocking-stuffers from last Christmas, and who knew how funny they would be when we initiated our 'On your mark, get set, go!' beginning each heat race?"

The racing is exhilarating.

Each slot car can reach nearly 60 miles an hour on straightaways, according to a few of the members — a speed narrated by the whir of their electric motors, which Charlie Snyder, the aforementioned parts liaison, provided with a price tag of \$23.50 each. Charlie Snyder is able to purchase the motors from a wholesaler in Roseburg, and delivers the parts to the members at races.

The 1/24 scale models rip around through bends and corners, sometimes with their rear ends stepping out in either direction. Every so often, a car leaves its designated lane, but any of the members not racing are readily available to replace the car so it can continue its heat.

Each heat lasts 50 laps with an average lap speed of 4.7 seconds, although I saw a lap as quick as 4.441 seconds, posted by Tipton. "He's the man to beat," a few of the other racers said.

Interspersed between heats is the occasional smoking session, be it cigarettes or marijuana, but they're never long breaks.

Ultimately, at the end of the night, despite who wins and who loses, there's always companionship. Lanz put it best: "We come together and put aside life differences and political opinions because we just want to race."

"At the end of the day, the guy that beat your ass that night will probably tell you how to beat his ass next week," he says.

For more information on Pelican Park Speedway, contact Tom Snyder, 541-953-8951 or mitexib@gmail.com.

Travel Lane County proudly thanks our members who champion the arts across the Eugene, Cascades & Coast region.

We're especially honored to recognize four outstanding members being celebrated at the
2025 BRAVA Awards:

Eugene Weekly - Dave Hauser Business of the Year

Don Dexter Gallery - Fentress Award

QSL Print Communications & The John G. Shedd Institute for the Arts - Arts & Business
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MAY 15-18

It's highly possible that there are people who go to the annual **Florence Rhododendron Festival**.

just for the bright native blooms. There are definitely folk who go for the noon Sunday, May 18, grand finale Floral Parade through Old Town Florence. There are also people who go to the festival to ogle the hordes of shiny Harleys that line the streets of Old Town that weekend. The bikes are rarely mentioned in PR for the Rhody Days fest, but they dominate the scene. Not to be missed is the sight of several hundred members of the **Free Souls Motorcycle Club** roaring in from the Eugene area on Saturday morning. If you do have to miss the Souls' grand entrance on the coast but are in the mood to check out some hogs and other bikes, then put the annual **Distinguished Gentleman's Ride** on Sunday on your agenda. The ride takes place across the world and the Eugene version is hosted by the local Caballeros Riders Club to raise funds and awareness for men's mental health and prostate cancer research. The ride features folks of all genders dressed in dapper clothing on vintage and classic motorcycles. The DGR After-Party is open to all at Viking Brewing and will feature Darline Jackson's My Band "performing a couple of sets of sweet soul music starting at 1 pm." Viking Brewing will be donating a portion from each pint sold to the Distinguished Gentleman's Ride. — Camilla Mortensen

Florence Rhododendron Festival opens Thursday, May 15, and runs through May 18, featuring flowers, a Thursday coronation, a Sunday parade, a carnival all four days and, of course, the motorcycles. Find out more at FlorenceChamber.com. The free Distinguished Gentleman's Ride After-Party is Sunday, May 18, at Viking Brewing, 520 Commercial Street, Unit F.



Photo by Camilla Mortensen

May 15

THURSDAY

Art/Craft

Transgressors Reception, 5-7:30pm, Museum of Natural & Cultural History, 1680 E. 15th Ave.

Paint w/ Cats, 5:30-7pm, Eugene Spfd. Cat Lounge, 537 W. Centennial Blvd. \$30.

Comedy

Comedy

Bryan Callen, 7pm, Olsen Run Comedy Club, 44 E. 7th Ave. \$30-45.

Film

The Archaeology Channel International Film Festival, 6:30-10pm, The Shedd, 868 High St.

Food/Drink

Thursday Tasting: Double Mountain, 6-8pm, The Bier Stein, 1591 Willamette.

Gatherings

Hearing Voices & Different Realities Discussion & Support Group, 1-2:30pm, Trauma Healing Project, 631 E. 19th Ave., bldg. B.

LCC Job Fair, 1-4pm, Lane Community College, 4000 E. 30th Ave., Center Building.

Co-Dependents Anonymous: Living the Dream at Wellsprings Friends School, 7-8:15pm, Wellsprings Friends School, 3590 W. 18th Ave.

Kids/Family

Family Playtime, 10:15-11am, Bethel Branch Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd.

The Magical Moombah: Tall Tales & Silly Stuff!, 10:15am, The Shedd, 868 High St. \$4.

Lectures/Classes

Oregon Urban & Community Forestry Conference, 9am-3:30pm, Venue 252, 252 Lawrence St.

Hablemos Español: Spanish Conversation, 4pm, Down-

town Eugene Public Library, 100 W. 10th Ave.

How To Save A Rhinoceros, 5:30-8pm, Erb Memorial Union, 1395 University St.

Literary Arts

Writing Time, 10:30am-1pm, Wordcrafters Studio, 436 Charnelton St., ste. 100. \$5.

Music

Artistic Encounters w/ John Shipe, folk, noon-1pm, Kesey Square, Willamette & E. Broadway.

Open Mic, 5:30-10pm, Mac's Restaurant & Nightclub, 1626 Willamette.

Arthur Buezo, savage folk, 7-9pm, beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave.

Covenhoven, indie, 8pm, The Hybrid Gallery, 941 W. 3rd Ave. \$15-20.

DJ Jon Smith, vinyl, 8pm, PLAY Eugene, 232 W. 5th St.

MaMuse, folk-soul, 8pm, WOW Hall, 291 W. 8th Ave. \$31.

Pocket Dimension, funk fusion, 8pm, Sam Bond's, 407 Blair Blvd. \$5.

Funk Night Eugene, 9pm, Luckey's Club, 933 Olive St.

Noche De Rumba w/ DJ Pachanga Mix, 9pm-2am, Cowfish Dance Club, 62 W. Broadway.

Nightlife

Karaoke, 5:30-10pm, Dexter Lake Club, 39128 Dexter Rd., Dexter.

Trivia w/ Brett, 6:30-8:30pm, Viking Brewing West, 520 Commercial St., unit F.

Bingo, 7-11pm, The Wild Duck, 1419 Villard St.

Bingo, 7pm, Twisted Duck Pub, 529 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd.

Karaoke, 7-11pm, Twisted River Saloon, 1444 Main St., Spfd.

Karaoke, 8pm, Happy Hours, 645 River Rd.

Karaoke, 8:30pm-12:30am, The Barn Light, 924 Willamette.

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Karaoke, 9pm-1am, Conway's Restaurant & Lounge, 5658 Main St., Spfd.

Outdoors/Recreation
GRiT Series: Bike & Helmet Fitting, 5:30-7:30pm, LifeCycle Bike Shop, 1733 Pearl St., ste. B.

Spiritual

Refuge Recovery, 5:30-7pm, Sacred Connections Community Church, 810 W. 3rd Ave.

Teens

D&D for Beginners, 4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Theater

Tappin' Talent Search, 6-9pm, Tallman Brewing, 2055 Primrose St., Lebanon.

May 16

FRIDAY

Art/Craft

Make Buttons, 2:30-5:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library, 100 W. 10th Ave.

LEGACY: 75th Anniversary Exhibit Opening Celebration, 5-7pm, Maude Kerns Art Ctr., 1910 E. 15th Ave.

Comedy

Bryan Callen, 7pm & 9:30pm, Olsen Run Comedy Club, 44 E. 7th Ave. \$30-45.

Drag

Men At Werk: It's Gonna Be May, 8pm, The Hybrid-Eugene, 941 W. 3rd Ave. \$15.

Film

Filmed by Bike Festival, 5:30pm, University of Oregon Straub Hall, rm. 156, 1451 Onyx St. \$5-10.

The Wild Robot (2024), 6pm, Bethel Branch of Eugene Public Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd.

The Archaeology Channel International Film Festival, 6:30-10pm, The Shedd, 868 High St.

Prince of Darkness (1987), 7:30pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$8-11.

Gatherings

Emerald Valley Resource Network BHRN Bash, 11am-3pm, Farmer's Market Pavilion, 85 E. 8th Ave.

Eugene Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome & Hypermobility Support Group, 4-6pm. Email EugeneWildStripes@zohomail.com for location.

Health

Lifestyle Medicine Class, 7:30pm, Irving Grange, 1011 Irvington Dr.

Kids/Family

Tot Discovery Day: Physics Phenomenons, 9am-noon, Eugene Science Ctr., 2300 Leo Harris Pkwy. FREE-\$9.

The Magical Moombah: Tall Tales & Silly Stuff!, 10:15am, The Shedd, 868 High St. \$4.

Lectures/Classes

Tech Help, 3-4pm, Bethel Branch of Eugene Public Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd.

Djembe Drumming, 3:30-4:30pm, Djembe Trading Post, 1740 W. 10th Ave. \$10.

Negotiation w/ Emmett & Crystal of Breathe Toys, 5-7pm, As You Like It: The Pleasure Shop, 1655 W. 11th Ave., ste. 1. \$20.

Gray Whale Foraging Behaviors & Morphology Off the Oregon Coast, 7-8:30pm, University of Oregon Allen Hall, rm. 221.

Music

Still Woozy ft. Goth Babe, psychedelic alternative, 4pm, The Cuthbert Amphitheater, 601 Day Island Rd. \$65-89.

Walker T. Ryan Trio, blues, rock, folk, 5pm, Viking Brewing West, 520 Commercial St., unit F.

Bootleg Rose, indie folk, 5:30-7:30pm, LaVelle Vineyards, 89697 Sheffler Rd., Elmira.

Henry Cooper Trio, blues, 6-9pm, Territorial Vineyards & Wine Co., 907 W. 3rd Ave.

Arthur Buezo, savage folk, 7-9pm, PublicHouse, 418 A St., Spfd.

Boxcar Figaro, folk, blues, 7-9pm, Drop Bear Brewery, 2690 Willamette.

The Stagger & Sway, Americana, rock, 7-9pm, The Garden on Friendly, 2760 Friendly St.

Ky Burt & the Feelgoods, country, folk, 7:30pm, Gratitude Brewing, 540 E. 8th Ave.

Majid Ensemble, folk, klezmer, 7:30-9:15pm, Tsunami Books, 2585 Willamette. \$24.

UO Jazz Ensembles, 7:30-10pm, The Jazz Station, 124 W. Broadway. \$15.

Anna Moss, r&b, Americana, porch jazz, 8pm, WOW Hall, 291 W. 8th Ave. \$20-29.50.

Charity Kiss w/ Slippy & The Sheets & Skip The Millers, various, 8-10:30pm, Whiteside Theatre, 361 SW Madison Ave., Corvallis. \$10-15.

Daddy Rabbit, roots, rock, blues, 8-11:45pm, Even Steven's, 117 S. 14th St., Spfd. \$8.

Grateful Web: Shafthy, 8pm, Whirled Pies, 199 W. 8th Ave. \$20-22.

The Survivors, classic rock, 8pm-midnight, The Embers, 1811 State Hwy 99 N.

Just Clark & Buck Magic, country, Americana, 9pm, Sam Bond's, 407 Blair Blvd. \$5.

Nightlife

Karaoke, 7-11pm, Round Up Saloon, 13 North Front St., Creswell.

Trivia, 7pm, The Barn Light, 924 Willamette.

Trivia, 7-9pm, Local Losers Lounge, 85944 Highway 99 S.

Karaoke, 8pm-midnight, Squachos, 471 S. A St., Spfd.

Karaoke, 8pm-2am, Keg Tavern, 4711 W. 11th Ave.

Karaoke w/ DJ Saturn, 8pm, Twisted Duck Pub, 529 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd.

Kinky Bingo, 8pm-11pm, 255 Madison, 255 Madison St. \$10.

Karaoke, 9pm-1am, The Barn Light, 924 Willamette.

Outdoors/Recreation

Fun Friday Goat Yoga, 6-7pm, No Regrets Flower Farm & Animal Sanctuary, 26641 Bellfountain Rd., Monroe. \$28.

Social Dance

Soul Sessions, 8pm, PLAY Eugene, 232 W. 5th St.

Freek! Dance Party w/ DJ SPOC-3PO, 8:30pm-2:15am, Cowfish Dance Club, 62 W. Broadway.

Church of '80s, 9pm-2am, Blairally, 245 Blair Blvd. \$4.

Salsa & Bachata Social Dancing & Drop-in Class, 9pm-12:15am, The Vet's Club, 1626 Willamette. \$8.

Spiritual

Recovery Dharma Buddhist Meeting, 10-11:30am, Jesco Club, 340 Blair Blvd.

Teens

Learn to Play Magic the Gathering, 4pm, Sheldon Branch of Eugene Public Library, 1566 Coburg Rd.

LGBTQ+ Youth Group, 4pm, Amazon Community Ctr., 2700 Hilyard St.

Theater

One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest, 6-9:30pm, Zero Clearance Theater Co., 47781 Hwy 58, Oakridge. \$12-25.

Misery, 7:30pm, The Very Little Theatre, 2350 Hilyard St. \$22.

The Bitch is Back! A Night of Elton John Burlesque, 9pm, Sparrow & Serpent, 211 Washington St. \$15.

May 17

SATURDAY

Art/Craft

Figure Art Session, 10am-1pm, Lane Community College, 4000 E. 30th Ave. \$8-60.

Mandala Dot Rock Painting Workshop & Goat Happy Hour, 10am-noon, No Regrets Flower Farm & Animal Sanctuary, 26641 Bellfountain Rd., Monroe. \$45.

Kids Craft, 11am-2pm, MECCA, 555 High St. \$5.

Comedy

Bryan Callen, 7pm & 9:30pm, Olsen Run Comedy Club, 44 E. 7th Ave. \$30-45.

Dance

Eugene Ballet: A Midsummer Night's Dream w/ Orchestra Next, 7:30-9:30pm, Hult Ctr. \$18-70.

Farmers Markets

Lane County Farmers Market, 9am-3pm, Lane County Farmers Market, 8th Ave. & Oak St.

Spencer Creek Community Grower's Market, 10am-2pm, Spencer Creek Grange, 86013 Lorane Hwy.

Veneta's Downtown Farmers' Market, 10am-2pm, Veneta's Downtown Farmers' Market, 88267 Territorial Rd., Veneta.

Film

The Archaeology Channel International Film Festival, 9:30am-7pm, The Shedd, 868 High St.

The Metropolitan Opera: Salome, 10am, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$18-26.

Prince of Darkness (1987), 1pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$8-11.

Gatherings

Overeaters Anonymous, 9:30-10:30am, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1685 W. 13th Ave.

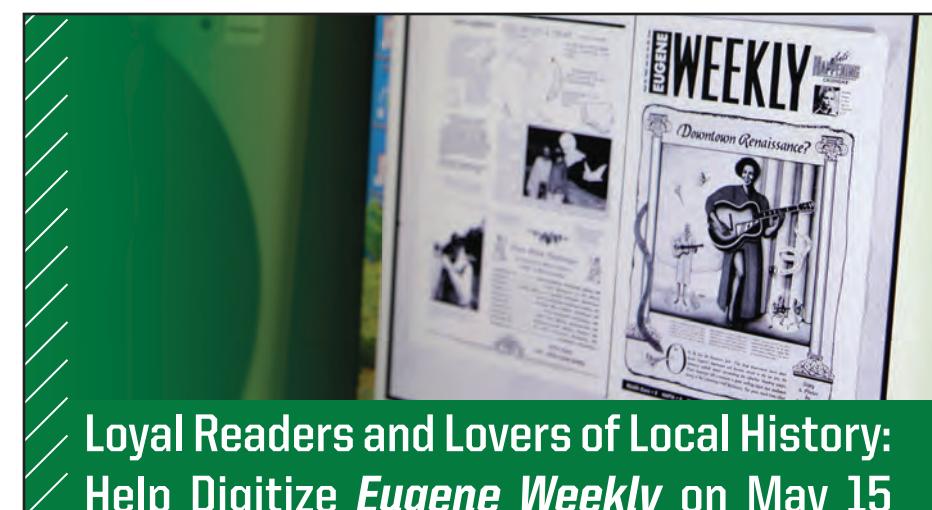
Come As You Are: Codependents Anonymous, 10-11am, First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St.

The Magical Moombah: Tall Tales & Silly Stuff!, 10am, The John G. Shedd Institute for the Arts, 868 High St. \$4.

Capricorn Manor Grand Opening, noon-5 pm, Capricorn Manor, 105 W. A Ave., Drain.

Death Cafe, 2-3:30pm, Episcopal Church of St. John the Divine, 2537 Game Farm Rd., Spfd.

Death Cafe, 4:30-6pm, Ctr. For Spiritual Living, Eugene, 390 Vernal St.



Loyal Readers and Lovers of Local History: Help Digitize Eugene Weekly on May 15

For more than 40 years, *Eugene Weekly* has served as Lane County's premier source for alternative news, local events, and perspectives truly rooted in our community. By now, it's more than just a newspaper—it's a chronicle of history.

That's why the University of Oregon Libraries is seeking to add the full run of *EW* to their digital archive, the [Historic Oregon Newspapers](#) website. When the paper is digitized, every past issue will be freely accessible to the public, joining

nearly 400 other historically significant Oregon journals in a database that serves millions of visitors per year.

As part of Ducks Give, the UO's annual giving-day promotion, you can help us finish this project. All gifts made to the UO Libraries on May 15 will directly support the digitization of *Eugene Weekly* and help to unlock additional funding pledges from major library donors. Gifts of even a few dollars can make a big impact in preserving our journalistic heritage!



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O Libraries

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CALENDAR



MOXIE DANCE COLLECTIVE Photo by Jay Eades

MAY 18

Moxie Dance Collective, a recently launched dance group in Eugene, presents their first production, **Broadway After Dark**, May 18, with familiar Broadway show dance numbers saluting Broadway's sexy side. Co-founders Kendra Lady and Hannah Flier wanted Moxie to provide adults who previously danced or who have always wanted to try an opportunity not only to perform but to choreograph their own pieces. Lady, who graduated with a degree in dance from the University of Oregon School of Music and Dance and teaches dance at Rebelle Studios in Eugene, says *Broadway After Dark* will feature jazz-influenced choreography, especially heels dance, which according to Lady, can integrate aspects of hip hop popular on Broadway shows. Broadway fans may recognize heels-style dance from *Chicago*. And while burlesque influences the evening, Lady and Flier stress the inspiration was musical theater. As well as *Chicago*, *Broadway After Dark* will showcase numbers from *RENT*, *Moulin Rouge* and *Six* and *Heathers: The Musical*. With Moxie, Lady says, "We hoped to create a collective focused on heels, burlesque and jazz, where adults of all ages and skill levels could come together and learn pieces and choreograph and perform. Performing opportunities for adults are uncommon, especially for adults who are returning to dance after maybe taking a break for a long time." Springfield's Overlap Self-Care Superstore, an all-inclusive adult product store, will sell during the evening's performances. — Will Kennedy

Moxie Dance Collective's Broadway after Dark is 9 pm Sunday, May 18, at John Henry's, 881 Willamette Street. Tickets are \$10, and the show is 21-plus. For more information about Moxie Dance Collective, visit @moxyedancecollective541 on Instagram or Moxie Dance Collective on Facebook.

Kids/Family

Chalk it Up For Kids in the Arts: A Chalk Party Fundraiser, 10am-2pm, C.R.O.W. Ctr. for the Performing Arts, 3120 Hwy 101, Florence.

Baby & Toddler Playtime, 10:15-10:45am, Bethel Branch of Eugene Public Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd.

Kids & Family Crafting, 11am-2pm, MECCA, 555 High St.

The Magical Moombah: Tall Tales & Silly Stuff!, 1pm, The Shedd, 868 High St. \$4.

Builders & Makers Club, 3-5pm, Bethel Branch of Eugene Public Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd.

Lectures/Classes
Talk Time: Practice Conversational English, 10:30am-12:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Women's Self Defense, 3-5:30pm, Modern Samurai Academy, 755 Charnelton St.

Young Historians, 11am-1pm, Shelton McMurphy Johnson House, 303 Willamette.

Literary Arts

Epic, Comedy, Tragedy, 9:30am-noon, UO Baker Downtown Ctr, 975 High St. \$95-150.

Writing Hooks, Cliffhangers & Page Turners, 9am-1pm, Wordcrafters Studio, 436 Charnelton St., ste. 100. \$159.

Markets

Eugene Saturday Market, 10am-4pm, Park Blocks, 8th Ave. & Oak St.

Music

Eugene Saturday Market Main Stage, 10am-4pm, Park Blocks, 8th Ave. & Oak St.

99th Eugene Gleemen Spring Concert, 2:30pm, The Wildish Theater, 630 Main St., Spfd. FREE-\$25.

Drive to Space, prog rock, funk, reggae, Americana, 2:30-4pm, Park Blocks, 8th Ave. & Oak St.

Let It Roll, classic rock, 5-7pm, Tallman Brewing, 2055 Primrose St., Lebanon.

Fast Gravel, jazz, salsa, 6-8pm, Arable Brewing Co., 510 Conger St.

Just Clark, Americana, 6-8pm, Viking Brewing West, 520 Commercial St., unit F.

Matt Mitchel, Americana, 6-9pm, McKenzie General Store & Obsidian Grill, 91837 Taylor Rd., McKenzie Bridge.

Shamanic Drumming, 6-8pm, The Center, 390 Vernal St. \$10-20.

Mix-A-Lot Music & Comedy Open Mic, 6:30-9pm, Twisted Duck Pub, 529 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd.

Corwin Bolt & The Wingnuts, folk, Americana, 7-9pm, The Garden on Friendly, 2760 Friendly St.

Grateful Web: Garcia Birthday Band, 7pm, Whirled Pies, 199 W. 8th Ave. \$20-22.

Roger Jaeger, indie, pop, 7pm, Drop Bear Brewery, 2690 Willamette.

Soromundi: Everything Possible, 7pm, Hult Ctr. \$23-28.

Walker T Ryan, blues, Americana, 7pm, Houndstooth Public House, 1795 W. 6th Ave.

Oregon Mozart Players: Da Capo, 7:30pm, Beall Concert Hall, 1225 University of Oregon. \$30-65.

Elvin Bishop & Charlie Musselwhite, blues, 7:30pm, The Shedd, 868 High St. \$45-64.

Keith Brown Sextet, r&b, funk, jazz, hip hop, 7:30-10pm, The Jazz Station, 124 W. Broadway. \$25.

Melissa Ruth & The Likely Stories, country, blues, 7:30-9:30pm, beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave.

Shadow Sway ft. Halie Loren & Daniel Gallo, jazz, 7:30-9:15pm, Tsunami Books, 2585 Willamette. \$20.

Tannahill Weavers, Celtic, 7:30pm, Unity of the Valley, 3912 Dillard Rd. \$27.50-30.

Outlandish D'Amour, The Police tribute, 7:30pm, Gratitude Brewing, 540 E. 8th Ave.

Seeking Saturn, alt rock, 8pm-midnight, Even Steven's, 117 S. 14th St., Spfd. \$5.

Against the Raging Tide w/ Alame, rock, metal, 8-10pm, Whiteside Theatre, 361 SW Madison Ave., Corvallis. \$10-15.

The Survivors, classic rock, 8pm-midnight, The Embers, 1811 State Hwy 99 N.

Nightlife

Drag Bingo, 5-7pm, Sparrow & Serpent, 211 Washington St.

Music Bingo, 6-10pm, Local Losers Lounge, 85944 Highway 99 S.

Karaoke, 8pm-midnight, Craig's Lucky Logger & Henry's Bar, 39297 McKenzie Hwy, Spfd.

Goth Prom, 9pm, Sparrow & Serpent, 211 Washington St.

Karaoke, 9pm-1am, Centennial Steak House, 1300 Mohawk Blvd., Spfd.

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Outdoors/Recreation

Birding & Beautification, 8am-noon, Perkins Peninsula Park, 26647 OR-126, Veneta.

Cottage Grove Half Marathon & 10K, 8:30am-2pm, Trailhead Park, S. 10th St., Cottage Grove. \$65-120.

Treat Yourself, 9-11am, Bohemia Park, S. 10th St., Cottage Grove.

College Hill/Friendly Neighborhood Walking Tour, 10am, Washington Park, 2025 Washington St.

Myofascial Release for Core & Pelvis, 2-3:15pm, Eugene Family YMCA Don Stathos Campus, 600 E. 24th Ave. \$20-35.

SCM Yoga, 2-4pm, Sacred Connections Community Church, 810 W. 3rd Ave. FREE-\$10.

Goat Yoga & Wine Happy Hour, 4-5:30pm, No Regrets Flower Farm & Animal Sanctuary, 26641 Bellfountain Rd., Monroe. \$45.

Spiritual

Let's Just Sit Together, 10:30am-noon, Buddha Eye Temple, 2190 Garfield St. FREE-\$10.

Theater

One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest, 6-9:30pm, Zero Clearance Theater Co., 47781 Hwy 58, Oakridge. \$12-25.

Misery, 7:30pm, The Very Little Theatre, 2350 Hilyard St. \$22.

May 18

SUNDAY

Art/Craft

Goats & Glass Class: Square Rainbow Edition, 10am-1pm, No Regrets Flower Farm & Animal Sanctuary, 26641 Bellfountain Rd., Monroe. \$125.

Paint & Sip w/ Sierra, noon, beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave. \$30.

Benefits

Bark in the Park, 8am, Alton Baker Park, 200 Day Island Rd.

Bingo for Charity: Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom, 3-5pm, Tallman Brewing, 2055 Primrose St., Lebanon.

Comedy

Hand Shoes & Horse Gredades, 7:30pm, Luckey's Club, 933 Olive St.

Dance

Eugene Ballet: A Midsummer Night's Dream w/ Orchestra Next, 2-4pm, Hult Ctr. \$18-70.

Moxie Dance Collective: Broadway After Dark, 8pm, John Henry's, 881 Willamette. \$10.

Festival

Mt. Pisgah Arboretum Wildflower Festival, 10am-5pm, Mount Pisgah Arboretum, 34901 Frank Parrish Rd. \$15.

Film

The Archaeology Channel International Film Festival, 9:30am-7pm, The Shedd, 868 High St.

Gatherings

Sunday Gathering, 10:30-11:30am, The Center, 390 Vernal St.

Wayne Morse Open House 50th Anniversary, noon-4pm, Wayne Morse Family Farm, 595 Crest Dr.

The Eugene People's Budget: Money for People's Needs, Not Corporate Greed, 1:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Kids/Family

Family Fun w/ Pastels, 1-4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Family Bingo, 5:30pm, Drop Bear Brewery, 2690 Wilamette.

Lectures/Classes

Wildfire Awareness & Firecaping, 11am-3pm, Down To Earth, 532 Olive St.

Now What? A Series in Support of Artists, noon, The Hybrid, 941 W. 3rd Ave. \$10-12.

Anyone Can Be a Pornstar: Living Your XXX Fantasy w/ Jayav da BAE, 5-7pm, As You Like It: The Pleasure Shop, 1655 W. 11th Ave., ste. 1. \$20.

Literary Arts

Poetry in the Round, 12:30-2pm, Coburg Commons Bookstore, 9119 N. Wilamette, Coburg.

Writing Time, 6:30-9pm, Wordcrafters Studio, 436 Charnelton St., ste. 100. \$5.

Music

Soromundi: Everything Possible, 2:30pm, Hult Ctr. \$23-28.

Concerts at First, 3pm, First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St.

Irish Jam, 4-7:30pm, Sam Bond's, 407 Blair Blvd.

Spring Vespers (Music & Poetry), 4pm, Central Lutheran Church, 1857 Potter St.

EastSide Sunday Jam & Dance Party, 5pm, Twisted River Saloon, 1444 Main St., Spfd.

Open Mic, 5:30pm, Publi-cHouse, 418 A St., Spfd.

Open Jazz Jam Session, 6pm, Gratitude Brewing, 540 E. 8th Ave.

The Bad Plus, jazz, 6-7:15pm & 8-9:15pm, The Jazz Station, 124 W. Broadway. \$40.

Eugene Opera: An Evening w/ Lawrence Barasa, 7pm, Unity of the Valley, 3912 Dillard Rd. \$25-40.

Goth Night w/ Church Noir, 9pm-2am, Cowfish Dance Club, 62 W. Broadway.

Nightlife

Trivia w/ Elliot Martinez, 4-6pm, Blairally, 245 Blair Blvd.

Karaoke w/ Adam Stiles, 8pm, Happy Hours, 645 River Rd.

Karaoke, 9pm-1am, Sparrow & Serpent, 211 Washington St.

Outdoors/Recreation

Sunday Funday Goat Yoga Class, 4-5pm, No Regrets Flower Farm & Animal Sanctuary, 26641 Bellfountain Rd., Monroe. \$35.

Social Dance

Ballroom, Latin & Swing, 5:30-8pm, Veteran's Memorial Ballroom, 1626 Willamette. \$4-8.

The Merry Lanesters, 11:15am, 118 Merry Lane, 118 Merry Lane.

Spiritual

Dawn of a New Era, 10-11:30am, Bahai Ctr. of Eugene, 1458 Alder St.

Nondual Teachings from the Great Spiritual Traditions, 11am-1pm, The Ctr. for Sacred Sciences, 5440 Saratoga St.

Spring Vespers (Music & Poetry), 4pm, Central Lutheran Church, 1857 Potter St.

Emerald Valley Ctr. for Spiritual Living, 4pm, Hilyard Community Ctr., 2580 Hilyard St. Don.

Theater

Misery, 2pm, The Very Little Theatre, 2350 Hilyard St. \$22.

One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest, 6-9:30pm, Zero Clearance Theater Co., 47781 Hwy 58, Oakridge. \$12-25.

May 19

MONDAY

Benefits

Oakshire Inspires: Hearts for Hospice, 5-8pm, Oakshire Commons, 416 Main St., Spfd.

Film

Chinatown (1974), 7-9pm, Whiteside Theatre, 361 SW Madison Ave., Corvallis. \$8-10.

Prince of Darkness (1987), 7:30pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$8-11.

Food/Drink

3-Way IPA Release Party, 5-8pm, The Bier Stein, 1591 Willamette.

Gatherings

Afternoon Chess, 4-6pm, PublicHouse, 418 A St., Spfd.

Deaf Night Out, 6-8pm, Portal Tea Co., 41 W. Broadway.

Death Cafe, 6:30-8pm, Shelton McMurphy Johnson House, 303 Willamette.

Malcolm X at 100 Years (1925-2025), 7pm, Sacred Connections Community Church, 810 W. 3rd Ave.

Lectures/Classes

Amateur Tinkerer Night, 6-8pm, Portal Tea Co., 41 W. Broadway.

Music

Open Mic, 5:30-7:30pm, 255 Madison, 255 Madison St.

Bluegrass Jam w/ Beltower, 6pm, beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave.

Open Mic, 6:30-10pm, Houndstooth Public House, 1795 W. 6th Ave.

Jason Isbell & The 400 Unit, singer-songwriter, 7:30pm, Hult Ctr. \$59-89.

Funk Yo' Monday w/ Alexander East, 8pm-1:30am, Cowfish Dance Club, 62 W. Broadway.

Open Mic, 8-11pm, Happy Hours, 645 River Rd.

Nightlife

Cribbage w/ Eugene Cribbage, 6:30-8:30pm, Coldfire Brewing Co., 263 Mill St. \$3.

Trivia w/ Elliot Martinez, 6:30pm, Oakshire Public House, 207 Madison St.

Trivia w/ Geo, 6:30pm, PublicHouse, 418 A St., Spfd.

Trivia, 7pm, PLAY Eugene, 232 W. 5th St.

Karaoke, 8pm-1am, Rennie's Landing, 1214 Kincaid St.

May 20

TUESDAY

Art/Craft

Craft a Floral Lantern Jar, 6:30pm, Bethel Branch of Eugene Public Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd.

Figure Art Session, 6:15pm-9pm, New Zone Gallery, 110 E. 11th Ave., Ste. C. \$8-60.

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CALENDAR

Gatherings

Learn ab. Psilocybin for Healing, 5:30-6:30pm. Visit EpicHealingEugene.com for link.

Men's Codependents Anonymous Meeting, 7-8pm. Visit CoDA.org for link.

Metal Detecting Club Meeting, 7-9pm, Eugene Elks Lodge, 2470 W. 11th Ave.

Farmers Markets

Tuesday Farmers Market, 9am-2pm, Lane County Farmers Market, 8th Ave. & Oak St.

Kids/Family

Babywearing & Bailando w/ Nurturely, 10-1am, Adventure! Children's Museum,

490 Valley River Ctr. FREE-\$7.

Lectures/Classes

Talk Time: Practice Conversational English, 4:30-6pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Willamette Writers: How to Interview Anyone, 6pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Literary Arts

Writing Time, 9:30am-noon, Wordcrafters Studio, 436 Charnelton St., ste. 100. \$5.

Tweens Writing Club, 4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Greg Marshall: Memoir Reading & Q&A, 7-8:30pm, Knight Library, 1501 Kincaid St.

Music

Linda Danielson & Janet Naylor, fiddle, harp, 2-3:15pm,

Tsunami Books, 2585 Willamette.

Rooster's Blues Jam, 6pm, Mac's Restaurant & Nightclub, 1626 Willamette. \$7.

Rich Fisher, singer-songwriter, 6:30-9:30pm, Happy Hours, 645 River Rd.

ESYO's Junior Orchestra Spring Concert, 7:30pm, Churchill High School, 1850 Bailey Hill Rd. N/C-\$10.

Nightlife

Bi-Weekly Bingo, 6pm, Hop Valley Brewing Co., 990 W. 1st Ave..

Pub Trivia, 6-8pm, Sparrow & Serpent, 211 Washington St.

Tacos & Trivia, 6-8pm, Tallman Brewing, 2055 Primrose St., Lebanon.

Trivia, 6pm, Sparrow & Serpent, 211 Washington St.

Bingo w/ Ty Connor, 6:30pm, PublicHouse, 418 A St., Spfd.

Quality Trivia w/ Elliot Martínez, 6:30-8:30pm, Oakshire Commons, 416 Main St., Spfd.

Trivia w/ Elliot Martínez, 6:30pm, The Oregon Wine LAB, 488 Lincoln St.

Bingo, 7-11pm, The Wild Duck, 1419 Villard St.

Bingo w/ Judy Jitsu, 7pm, PLAY Eugene, 232 W. 5th St.

Trivia w/ Geo, 7pm, beergarde, 777 W. 6th St.

Karaoke, 8:30-11:45pm, 5th St. Cornucopia, 207 E. 5th Ave.

Twisted Karaoke & Tacos, 8pm, Twisted Duck Pub, 529 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd.

Social Dance

Latin Dance Night & Salsa Instruction w/ DJ Vito, 7-11:30pm, Cowfish Dance Club, 62 W. Broadway. \$8.

Theater

BRAVA, 5pm, Hult Ctr. \$25-35.

May 21

WEDNESDAY

Art/Craft

Knit & Crochet Circle, 6pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Figure Art Session, 6:15-9pm, New Zone Gallery, 110 E. 11th Ave., ste. C. \$8-60.

Benefits

Oakshire Inspires: Protect Lane County Watersheds, 5-8pm,

Oakshire Public House, 207 Madison St.

Film

Sully (2016), 1-3pm, Willamalane Adult Activity Ctr., 215 W. C St., Spfd.

Bob Newton Family Film: The Princess Bride (1987), 7-9pm, Whiteside Theatre, 361 SW Madison Ave., Corvallis. FREE-\$10.

Prince of Darkness (1987), 7:30pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$8-11.

"Survivor" S48 Watch Party, 7:30pm, PublicHouse, 418 A St., Spfd.

Food/Drink

Picnic at the Pavilion, 11:30am-2pm, Farmers Market Pavilion & Plaza, 85 E. 8th Ave.

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MILAD VOSGUERITCHIAN AND HIS STUDENTS IN THE WEST BANK

Courtesy of House of Hope

MAY 20 & 22

Support educational opportunities for children in the West Bank on May 20 and 22 with **Peacebuilding Behind the Wall:**

Educating Palestinian Children and Families in the West Bank. Founded in 2008, House of Hope Vision School is a trauma-informed school for children living under occupation in the West Bank of Palestine. Supporting Hope is an organization founded to provide crowd sourced funding to the school. "They're trying to get these kids to keep their hearts open and not to hate, because hate is not going to get you anywhere," says Steve Goldman, secretary of the board of the school. Currently, 59 people give money monthly to the school founded by Milad Vosgueritchian and Manar Wahhab. "They wanted to give the kids a vision of a meaningful life despite the trauma around them," Goldman says. At the two events, Vosgueritchian will talk about how the school began, how it helps people in the surrounding Palestinian communities and how the school plans to continue in the future. Originally, Vosgueritchian was scheduled to give the talk in person, but this was later changed to virtual due to the current political climate, according to Ellen Rifkin, volunteer for Supporting Hope. Attendees can expect to learn about how education is a leading path to peace and prosperity for all living in the West Bank. "He'll be appearing virtually, and he'll be talking about his own life to some degree," Rifkin says. — Eve Weston

Peacebuilding Behind the Wall: Educating Palestinian Children and Families in the West Bank of Palestine is 7 pm Tuesday, May 20, and Thursday, May 22. The May 20 talk is at Unitarian Universalist Church in Eugene, 1685 West 13th Avenue, and the May 22 talk is at St. John the Divine Episcopal Church, 2537 Game Farm Road, Springfield. The talks are free, but donations are encouraged.

Gatherings

Hope & Help Hour Tour, 4:30-5:30pm, Catholic Community Services, 1025 G St., Spfd.

Bike Happy Hour, 5-7pm, Gratitude Brewing, 540 E. 8th Ave.

Co-Dependents Anonymous: Women's Step Study Group, 6-7pm, Saint Thomas Episcopal Church, 1465 Coburg Rd.

Kids/Family

Make a Puzzle, 4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library, 100 W. 10th Ave. Eugene, Oregon. n/c.

Lectures/Classes

Balance Fitness w/ Nate, 10am, Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High St. \$20.

Compost Workshop, 2-4pm, Community Sharing Program, 1440 Birch Ave., Cottage Grove.

Talk Time: Practice Conversational English, 4:30-6pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Body Mind Movement Awareness, 5:30-6:30pm, Trauma Healing Project, 631 E. 19th Ave., bldg. B. \$8-20.

Literary Arts

Windfall Reading Series: Eleanor Berry & Chris Anderson, 6pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Music

Scott Austin, singer-songwriter, 6-8pm, PublicHouse, 418 A St., Spfd.

Blues Jam & Open Mic, 7pm, Twisted Duck Pub, 529 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd.

Jay Veach & The Slow Cookers, jazz, 7-10pm, The Jazz Station, 124 W. Broadway. \$10. 13th Ave. \$9-12.

May 22

THURSDAY

Film

Mission Joy: Finding Happiness in Troubled Times, 6:30pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$9-12.

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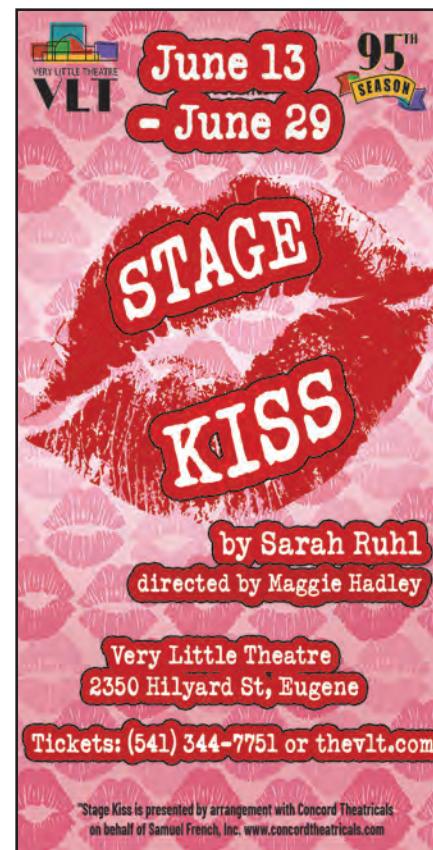
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CALENDAR

Eugene Symphony Orchestra: Wynton Marsalis' Swing Symphony, 7:30-9:30pm, Hult Ctr. \$10-74.
DJ Food Stamp, vinyl, 8pm, PLAY Eugene, 232 W. 5th St.
Funk Night Eugene, 9pm, Luckey's Club, 933 Olive St.

Noche De Rumba w/ DJ Pachanga Mix, 9pm-2am, Cowfish Dance Club, 62 W. Broadway.

Nightlife

Karaoke, 5:30-10pm, Dexter Lake Club, 39128 Dexter Rd., Dexter.
Trivia w/ Brett, 6:30-8:30pm, Viking Brewing West, 520 Commercial St., unit F.

Bingo, 7-11pm, The Wild Duck, 1419 Villard St.

Bingo, 7pm, Twisted Duck Pub, 529 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd.

Karaoke, 7-11pm, Twisted River Saloon, 1444 Main St., Spfd.

Karaoke, 8pm, Happy Hours, 645 River Rd.

Karaoke, 8:30pm-12:30am, The Barn Light, 924 Willamette.

Karaoke, 9pm-1am, Conway's Restaurant & Lounge, 5658 Main St., Spfd.

Spiritual

Refuge Recovery, 5:30-7pm, Sacred Connections Community Church, 810 W. 3rd Ave.

Teens

Tie Dye Party, 4pm, Bethel Branch of Eugene Public Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd.

Theater

Misery, 7:30pm, The Very Little Theatre, 2350 Hilyard St. \$22.

Add your event to Eugene Weekly's What's Happening Calendar for free at EugeneWeekly.com. Email Cal@EugeneWeekly.com with questions or call 541-484-0519.

TRANSFORMING BALLET

Fermata Ballet Collective, winner of this year's Arts and Business Alliance visionary award, is diversifying ballet

BY EVE WESTON

Eugene's Fermata Ballet Collective is transforming the local ballet scene by telling the story of those who normally might not have their story told, its founders say. Fermata's mission statement is to "diversify ballet by creating renewed paths in the dance experience and create collaborative performance opportunities."

Eugene's Fermata Ballet Collective won this year's Business Recognizing Arts Vision and Achievement (BRAVA) visionary award for artists or organizations that are changing the arts community for the better, presented by the Arts and Business Alliance of Eugene. Fermata has 12 resident artists and routinely collaborates with others around town. This year, Fermata is slotted to work with six outside artists, two guest faculty members and 10 miscellaneous collaborators.

Ballet as an art is infamous for its lack

of diversity. In the early days of ballet, including people of different races, gender identity and body type was unheard of. "We're actively trying to rewrite those norms from leadership to the casting of dancers," says Alaja Badalich, one of the founding members of Fermata in 2020.

Fermata is run by a board of directors who try to set themselves apart from other collectives. "We're radically doing something different, and I think it's caught attention in the best way possible," they add.

With the pandemic at an all-time high at the time, plus massive demonstrations taking place across the country, Badalich says they felt it was more important than ever to establish a dance collective that personified the resilience and resistance against racism, homophobia and transphobia through dance. "Our collective is intentionally inclusive, prioritizing representation across race, gender identity, body type and ability," Badalich says. Fermata means a musical pause of undefined length, which Badalich says represents the uncertainty in the world during 2020.

To dance is to tell a story, and Fermata has a unique way of doing it. The process of coming up with a dance begins with the dancers. They can come forward and present an idea or story that they feel needs to be heard. Then, the team works together with the choreographers to create a dance that tells that story.

Badalich says they tell their stories through dance by asking themselves a question and forming a narrative by answering that question. "I think the gift of Fermata is that the intention is so clear that you can decide what it means to you," Badalich says.

Steph Young, Fermata's treasurer, says they work with their dancers to develop an intensity that can be translated into dance to express the emotion that comes with the story being told. "I have my dancers sit and listen to the music multiple times because that's how my mind creates a connection with the scoring," Young says.

Fermata is a nonprofit organization. Young says being a nonprofit helps provide more opportunities for the community to come together and learn more about dance. "A lack of funds is not a reason to not engage in one of our events, and being able to be a nonprofit really allows for people to give us those donations of just simply space," they say.

Fermata is flexible about their performance spaces and takes part in different events around town. This year, they'll be performing at Founded Fest, Eugene Pride, the Rebelle Summer Soiree and participating in the Summer Choreographic Workshop series. "We've done seasonal workshops where we cultivate choreography and this will be our first season that we're able to reuse some of that repertoire

ARTS



FERMATA BALLET COLLECTIVE PERFORMS AT THE FARMERS MARKET PAVILION APRIL 18

Photo by Eve Weston

from one of our workshops to perform it at an event which will be at Found Fest on June 8," Young says.

As a relatively new collective, Fermata is just getting started. "I would love for us to, like, keep expanding our programming, our outreach, community partnerships," Badalich says. Young says they hope Fermata will be able to expand their educational program, helping new artists explore their talents. "We've had our first seminar with lighting design, and we're aiming to expand that with all varieties of knowledge within performing art," Young says.

Fermata performs at this year's Arts and Business Alliance of Eugene BRAVA awards 5:30 pm May 20 at the Hult Center. Tickets are \$35 at ArtsBusinessalliance.org/calendar.



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SISTERS OF THE WORLD

Soromundi Lesbian Chorus celebrates 35 years in Eugene with two concerts, a book and an exhibit at the Hult Center

BY WILL KENNEDY



SOROMUNDI LESBIAN CHORUS WINTER CONCERT Photo by Eugene Gay Men's Chorus

Soromundi Lesbian Chorus of Eugene founder Karm Hagedorn says she's not a visionary. "I just wanted to sing with friends," Hagedorn writes in an email to *Eugene Weekly*, recalling the night, 35 years ago, six women gathered in the living room of her home when Soromundi launched.

But, she adds, "it wasn't long before I knew what I had started, and I knew it was more than just a choir. It was a community."

More than three decades later, Hagedorn's Soromundi Lesbian Chorus is celebrating its 35th anniversary with two concerts. The first is an evening performance May 17 in the Soreng Theater at the Hult Center, and a matinee in the Soreng Theater is the next day.

Alongside the anniversary concerts, called *Soromundi: Everything Possible*, the chorus has produced a book commemorating its 35th anniversary for sale in limited quantities and available for preorder the evening and afternoon of each performance.

The book will later be sold on Amazon and from the Soromundi website.

Shortly before and after the concerts, Soromundi will present a museum-style exhibit of the chorus' history in the Jacobs Community Room, formerly Jacobs Gallery, on the Hult Center's ground floor.

Soromundi Vice President Ann Huber and former President Kate Barry, both singers, have co-chaired the anniversary planning. Huber joined the chorus seven years ago, and Barry joined the group shortly after it started.

Huber and Barry say *Everything Possible* will be in two sections. The first focuses on music from the group's first few years, featuring traditional chants, circle songs and pieces with call and response.

In the second half, Huber and Barry say the music will look toward the future, with selections like Chappell Roan's "Pink Pony Club," illustrating the "Everything Possible" theme of the show and highlighting Soromundi's broad commitment to diverse gender identities.

In both the first and second half, Huber

says the chorus will perform "a wider mix of songs than most people would ever expect a chorus to do." Such as "Songs of Sanctuary" by the Welsh composer Karl Jenkins, written in Jenkins' made-up language.

Percussion, piano and guitar will accompany singers in both the first and second halves, and former chorus members will return to Eugene and perform for the celebration.

As for the photographic exhibit, Huber and Barry say it's organized around five general themes highlighting the nonprofit's guiding principles: performance, collaboration, activism, friendship and community building.

The Soromundi book, *Sisters of the World*, is organized similarly, with photographs and stories from throughout Soromundi's 35 years. "Talking to different people and groups reminded me of specific concerts or moments in Soromundi's history that were meaningful for everybody," Barry says of the research process for the book and exhibit.

Such as the first time the chorus went on tour, or the time Soromundi performed at a gala conference in Portland, "when we were still a young choir, maybe 10 years old, and were just received with rapturous applause," Barry recalls.

"It was very affirming of what has been accomplished," she says.

Soromundi accepts members of all musical skill levels each September, and no audition is required to apply. The group rehearses once a week, all music selections come from the singers, and they perform at least three annual concerts in Eugene and around the Northwest.

Lisa Hellemm, Soromundi music director, says she knows of no other chorus of its kind that lets the membership select the music they sing. That process, she says, "gives every person a way to listen, discuss and vote on the repertoire."

At first, Hellemm says, Soromundi had trouble booking gigs because "lesbian" was in the name. (The word lesbian remains, but membership is open to all female-identifying singers, regardless of sexual orientation.)

"Now, unfortunately, it's our friends in the trans and genderqueer community who are being attacked," Hellemm says. "That's why it's important to support our LGBTQ+ organizations and provide safety for everyone."

Hagedorn calls the community the chorus has built and which the anniversary events will celebrate "a network for members, past and present, who need each other on many levels."

She says, "Support might include simply lending an ear, helping build a shed, buying weekly groceries, and singing someone on to whatever comes next when this life is finished."

Huber adds, "We can add more people to the table, and it doesn't diminish anybody else's presence."

Soromundi: Everything Possible — Annual Spring Concert is 7:30 pm Saturday, May 17, and 2:30 pm Sunday, May 18, in the Soreng Theater at the Hult Center, 1 Eugene Center. Tickets are \$28; the concerts are all ages. For more information about joining the Soromundi Lesbian Chorus, go to Soromundi.org.

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SAVAGE Love

BY DAN SAVAGE

I'm a 33-year-old gay man in a big city. I am currently in a five-month relationship with a wonderful, sweet man who loves me very much. I love him, too. Prior to this I was in a throuple for three years. That relationship was toxic. I was the new addition to the throuple, and I was more in love with one of them. There were a lot of jealousy issues, and a lot of hurt that took me a long time to get over when I finally moved on. Truthfully, even when that relationship ended, I was still very much in love with my main partner from that throuple. Our sexual chemistry was unlike anything else, and the deep passion we have for each other was unmatched. But we did break up. And I spent a lot of time healing. And now I met this wonderful man.

My main ex from the throuple — the one I loved most — just reached out to let me know that he and his other partner broke up and he wants me back. All of a sudden, my ex is telling me how much he loves me, how much he wants me, and how he wants to be my only partner — all of the things I would've killed to hear him say a year ago. I now find myself torn between my new boyfriend, who has done nothing wrong, and my ex, a man I love so much and have this incredible sexual chemistry with but who really hurt me. It should be noted that I am incredibly submissive in bed, and although my new partner tries to be dominant, it doesn't come naturally to him. My ex was fantastic in that role. And if I'm being honest, I have to admit that that kind of sexual play is something I need in a relationship. I'm torn and don't know what to do. I don't want to hurt anyone, but find myself in the impossible position of choosing between two people I care deeply about. Help!

Tormented Over X In Chicago

"When the gods wish to punish us, they answer our prayers." — Oscar Wilde

You spent three years in a throuple that turned toxic — or maybe was toxic from the start — and when it ended, all you wanted was for the guy you truly loved to choose you... and he didn't. So, you did what people are supposed to do when a bad relationship ends: you moved out, you moved on, you met someone else. And now the relationship gods have decided to fuck with you: the man you wanted is single and now he wants you and only you — so, your prayers have been answered, but a year too late.

Let's rewind.

You joined a couple as a third — as their third — but you weren't a perfectly balanced third. You were more into one than the other, TOXIC, which you most likely realized going in. That happens in lots of relationships; even in couples, one partner is often more invested/besotted/committed than the other. But an imbalance like that hits a little different — it's

more destabilizing — in a triad. If the partner you weren't into could tell you were only tolerating him while not-so-subtly fantasizing about peeling off his boyfriend... that's not just an awkward vibe or a price-of-admission power imbalance a person can learn to tolerate. That's an existential threat. Whether the other guy — the guy your dream man just dumped — was always the problem or he became a problem when he sensed not just what you wanted, TOXIC, but what his original partner also wanted... it's easy to understand why he was unhappy. It's a situation that could bring out the worst in anybody — you included.

Anyway!

Your throuple ended! You did the work! You found someone new! Someone kind! Someone who loves you! Someone you love... kinda... but not as much as you love the man who just walked back into your life.

As much as it pains me to say this — because the only person we know for sure is blameless in all this is the lovely man you've been seeing for the last six months — you should dump the new guy. You're already comparing the new guy to your ex... and the new can't meet your needs the same way your ex did... which means you're going to be thinking about your ex each and every time he tries and fails. And the longer you go on measuring the meh sex you have with your current boyfriend against the insanely hot sex you had with your ex, TOXIC, the more you're going to miss your ex and find yourself fantasizing about what might've been.

So, while staying with the nice guy sounds like the nice thing to do — while it sounds like the decent thing to do — staying with someone to avoid hurting their feelings only sets them up for more hurt down the road. But while you won't be able to avoid hurting your current boyfriend's feelings, TOXIC, you can avoid wasting his time by ending things cleanly and soon. But don't move right back in — or pick up right where you left off — with your ex. Date him. Take it slow. You may have fantasized about being with your ex on his own, TOXIC, but you've never known him on his own.

P.S. You're faced with a choice between two men you love — your ex from that disastrous throuple and the man you've been seeing for six months — and you're hesitating, in much the same way your ex faced a choice between you and his original partner and hesitated.

Got problems? Yes, you do! Email your question for the column to mailbox@savage.lovelv. Or record your question for the Savage Lovecast at savage.love/askdan! Podcasts, columns and more at Savage.Love

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PERSONALS

I Saw You

I was at Safeway on 18th street last week in Eugene. You were standing in line behind me at the register as I was checking out with my hands full of groceries and two skateboards as well as making small talk with the cashier. None the less, your piercing blue eyes caught my attention. You patiently waited for your turn to check out. I left the store and moments later went down the street to my next stop at 711 where you ended up behind me again with a 24 pack of waters in your hand. The store was full and we awkwardly locked eyes and smiled. I've periodically thought of you since.

Relaxing on your porch playing mandolin. Your gardens tidy and flourishing. I'll hold that snapshot of calm a long while.

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Legal Notices

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is published pursuant to the order of the circuit court judge of the above-entitled court, dated April 25, 2025. The order directs that this summons be published once each week for three consecutive weeks, making three publications in all, in a published newspaper of general circulation in Lane County. Date of first publication: May 8, 2025. Date of last publication: May 22, 2025. NOTICE READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY. IF YOU DO NOT APPEAR PERSONALLY BEFORE THE COURT OR DO NOT APPEAR AT ANY SUBSEQUENT COURT-ORDERED HEARING, the court may proceed in your absence without further notice and TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS. to the above-named child either on the date specified in THIS SUMMONS OR ON A FUTURE DATE and may make such orders and take such action as authorized by law. PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY

SUDOKU

Place numbers 1-9 so that each row, column and 3x3 square has each number only once.

9	4					8	2	
7						9		1
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9			5					6
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8	6					3	9	

Chris L. Martinez, OSB# 175566 Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 975 Oak Street, Suite 200 (541) 686-7973 ISSUED this 29th day of April 2025. Issued by: Chris L. Martinez, OSB# 175566 Assistant Attorney General

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS:
Probate administration proceedings in the Estate of Anthony James Urbanek, Deceased, are now pending in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for

Washington County, Case No. 25PBO3246, and Roger Metcalf has been appointed Personal Representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers, to the Personal Representative, c/o Hagen Law Office, 8555 SW Apple Way, Suite 300, Portland, OR 97225, within 4 months from the date of the first publication of this notice or such claims may be barred. NOTICE IS

FURTHER GIVEN to all persons whose rights may be affected by the above-entitled proceedings that additional information may be obtained from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published this 15th day of May, 2025.

FREE WILL Astrology BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (March 21-April 19): What may appear to be slow or static is actually moving. The developing changes are imperceptible from day to day, but incrementally substantial. So please maintain your faith in the diligent, determined approach. Give yourself pep talks that renew your deeply felt motivation. Ignore the judgments and criticism of people who have no inkling of how hard you have been working. In the long run, you will prove that gradual progress can be the most enduring.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The most successful people aren't those who merely follow their passion, but those who follow their curiosity. Honoring the guidance of our passions motivates us, but it can also narrow our focus. Heeding the call of our curiosity emboldens our adaptability, exploration, and maximum openness to new possibilities. In that spirit, Taurus, I invite you to celebrate your yearning to know and discover. Instead of aching for total clarity about your life's mission, investigate the subtle threads of what piques your curiosity. Experiment with being an intrigued adventurer.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Gemini author Huston Smith was a religious scholar who wrote 13 books. But he was dedicated to experiencing religions from the inside rather than simply studying them academically. Smith danced with Whirling Dervishes, practiced Zen meditation with a master and ingested peyote with Native Americans, embodying his view that real understanding requires participation, not just observation. In the spirit of his disciplined devotion, I invite you to seek out opportunities to learn through experience as much as theory. Leave your safety zone, if necessary, to engage with unfamiliar experiences that expand your soul. Be inspired by how Smith immersed himself in wisdom that couldn't come from books alone.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): More than 2,000 years ago, people living in what's now the Peruvian desert began etching huge designs of animals and plants in the earth. The makers moved a lot of dirt! Here's the mystery: Some of the gigantic images of birds, spiders, and other creatures are still visible today, but can only be deciphered from high above. And there were, of course, no airplanes in ancient times to aid in depicting the figures. Let's use this as a metaphor for one of your upcoming tasks, Cancerian. I invite you to initiate or intensify work on a labor of love that will motivate you to survey your life from the vantage point of a bird or plane or mountaintop.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You now have extra power to detect previously veiled patterns and hidden agendas. That's why I urge you to be alert for zesty revelations that may seem to arrive out of nowhere. They could even arise from situations you have assumed were thoroughly explored and understood. These are blessings, in my opinion. You should expect and welcome the full emergence of truths that have been ripening below the surface of your awareness. Even if they are initially surprising or daunting, you will ultimately be glad they have finally appeared.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Renowned Virgo author Nassim Nicholas Taleb has called for the discontinuation of the Nobel Prize in Economics. He says it rewards economists who express bad ideas that cause great damage. He also delivers ringing critiques of other economists widely regarded as top luminaries. Taleb has a lot of credibility. His book *The Black Swan* was named one of the most influential books since World War II. I propose we make him your inspirational role model for now, Virgo. May he incite you to question authority to the max. May he rouse you to bypass so-called experts, alleged mavens and supposed wizards. Be your own masterful authority.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I predict that your usual mental agility will be even more robust than usual in the coming weeks. Although this could possibly lead you to overthink everything, I don't believe that's what will happen. Instead, I suspect your extra cognitive flexibility will be highly practical and useful. It will enable you to approach problems from multiple angles simultaneously — and come up with hybrid solutions that are quite ingenious. A possibility that initially seems improbable may become feasible when you reconfigure its elements. PS: Your natural curiosity will serve you best when directed toward making connections between seemingly unrelated people and fields.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You're ready to go to the next evolutionary stage of a close alliance. Although you may not feel entirely prepared for the challenge, I believe you will be guided by your deeper wisdom to do what's necessary. One way I can help is to provide exhilarating words that boost your daring spirit. With that in mind, I offer you a passage from poet William Blake. Say them to your special friend if that feels right, or find other words appropriate to your style. Blake wrote, "You are the fierce angel that carves my soul into brightness, the eternal fire that burns away my dross. You are the golden thread spun by the hand of heaven, weaving me into the fabric of infinite delight. Your love is a furnace of stars, a vision that consumes my mortal sight, leaving me radiant and undone. In your embrace, I find the gates of paradise thrown wide."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): In ancient Egypt, mirrors were composed of polished copper. To remain properly reflective, they required continual maintenance. Let's take that as a metaphor for one of your key tasks in the coming weeks. It's high time to do creative upkeep on your relationships with influences that provide you with feedback on how you're doing. Are your intended effects pretty close to your actual effects? Does your self-image match the way you are perceived by others? Are you getting the right kind of input to help you stay on course?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Chances to initiate creative transformations will come from unexpected sources in the coming days. I guarantee it. But will you be sufficiently receptive to take maximum advantage? The purpose of this horoscope is to nudge you to shed your expectations so you will be tenderly, curiously open to surprising help and inspiration. What sweet interruptions and graceful detours will flow your way if you are willing to depart from your usual script? I predict that your leadership qualities will generate the greatest good for all concerned if you are willing to relinquish full control and be flexibly eager to entertain intuitive breakthroughs.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): For many Indigenous people of California, acorns were part of every meal. Nuts from oak trees were used to create bread, soups, dumplings, pancakes, gravy and porridge. But making them edible required strenuous work. In their natural state, they taste bitter and require multiple soakings to leach out the astringent ingredient. Is there a metaphorical equivalent for you, Aquarius? An element that can be important, but needs a lot of work, refinement and preparation? If so, now is a good time to develop new approaches to making it fully available.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): When Pisces-born Jane Hirshfield was a young poet, she mostly stopped writing poetry for eight years. During that time, she was a full-time student of Zen Buddhism and lived for three years at a monastery. When she resumed her craft, it was infused with what she had learned. Her meditative practice had honed her observational skills, her appreciation of the rich details of daily life, and her understanding that silence could be a form of communication. In the spirit of the wealth she gathered from stillness, calm and discipline, I invite you to enjoy your own spiritual sabbatical, dear Pisces. The coming weeks will be an excellent time to relax into the most intriguing mysteries.

Homework: What do you want more than anything else but fear you're not worthy of? Newsletter.FreeWillAstrology.com

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Jonesin' Crossword BY MATT JONES

"Achievement Unlocked"--you need a certain three letters.

Across

- 1. Foldable food
- 5. Drops on the lawn
- 8. In this manner
- 12. Smartphone sound
- 14. On the Caribbean, for example
- 16. Banish
- 17. Longtime syndicated radio host and voice of Shaggy on "Scooby-Doo"
- 19. Elation
- 20. Meal prep box
- 21. Dairy product with a straining process
- 23. Request for help
- 24. "Blueberries for ___"
- 25. Body of beliefs
- 28. Texting protocol initials
- 31. Phobias
- 35. Just terrific

Down

- 38. Flying mammal
- 39. Jonas who developed a polio vaccine
- 40. Creepy
- 41. Output of Kilauea
- 42. Sugar suffix
- 43. One who often knows what foods they like
- 45. Filmmaker Russ
- 48. "I know kung fu" role
- 49. Bohr who won a Nobel
- 50. Movie studio expanse
- 52. Throw in
- 53. Couple's parting gesture
- 59. ___-Locka, Fla.
- 62. Pointless
- 63. Some pivotal song moments, or what the other five theme answers literally contain
- 65. Complete fiction
- 66. Singer Fitzgerald

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD

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